

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 OMB-01 CU-04 AGR-20 IGA-02 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15 NEA-11 DRC-01

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R 300745Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5685

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, US, SG, EAID, ETRD

SUBJ: CALL ON SENEGALESE PRIME MINISTER

1. SUMMARY. DURING AMBASSADOR'S INITIAL CALL, PRIMIN DIOUF REAFFIRMS GOS DESIRE FOR US INVESTMENT; SAYS ONLY SMALL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOS AND US INVESTORS ON HOTEL PROJECT; PRAISES US EFFORTS IN MIDDLE EAST.END SUMMARY.

2. IN COURSE OF MY COURTESY CALL, JAN 28, PRIMIN ABDOU DIOUF EXPRESSED GOS "STRONG DESIRE" FOR INCREASED ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH US. HE SAID IN 1973 COMMERCIAL COOPERATION WITH US HAD TAKEN SEVERAL IMPORTANT STEPS AND THIS WAS GOOD SIGN. GOS WAS IN PROCESS OF FINALIZING ARRANGEMENT TO PURCHASE TRAWLERS FROM US, WITH EXIM FINANCING; AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON ALL BUT ONE POINT ON THE PANAM-INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL PROJECT; AND THERE WERE OTHER AMERICAN INVESTMENT POSSIBILITIES BEFORE HIM. HE ADDED THAT CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC AREAS ALSO OFFERED POSSIBILITIES FOR
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COOPERATION. PRIMIN SAID ONE PROBLEM HE HAD TO STRESS

WAS GOS DISAPPOINTMENT IN BEING EXCLUDED FROM RECENT ALLOCATION OF 100,000 TONS OF GRAIN.

3. I ASSURED PM THAT USG APPRECIATED OPPORTUNITY FOR MORE PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN US, AS EXIMBANK DIRECTOR KOBELINSKY HAD AGAIN POINTED OUT THIS MONTH IN DAKAR. I ALSO INDICATED US INVESTORS TENDED TO BE ATTRACTED TO VENTURES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHERE THERE ARE ALREADY ONGOING AMERICAN BUSINESS INTERESTS. HOTELS LIKE THE IVOIRE IN ABIDJAN PARTICULARLY CAN ATTRACT AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN BECAUSE THEY PROVIDE A BASE WITH HOMESTYLE COMFORTS. THEREFORE, I CONSIDERED PROSPECTIVE AMERICAN INVESTORS WOULD BE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY A POSITIVE SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS NOW IMPEDING A CONCLUSION OF HOTEL PROJECT AGREEMENT.

4. I TOLD PRIMIN USG WAS AWARE OF GOS POSITION THAT ITS CURRENT AND IMMEDIATE FUTURE FOOD GRAIN NEEDS HAD BE UNDERESTIMATED AND MATTER CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW.

5. WHEN PRIMIN MENTIONED HOPE USG COULD HELP FINANCE DELTA OR MANANTALI DAMS, I POINTED OUT CURRENT AID PRIORITIES TENDED TO LEAVE SUCH PROJECTS TO WORLD BANK AND OTHER MULTI-NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. IN CONTEXT OF DROUGHT RELIEF AND REHABILITATION, USG WAS LOOKING AT SENEGAL'S PRESSING NEEDS. AS HE KNEW, WE WERE NOW WORKING WITH GOS ON CONCRETE R&R PROJECTS AND HOPED FOR AN AGREEMENT AND A SIGNING CEREMONY WITHIN NEXT TEN DAYS.

6. PRIMIN ASSURED ME OF HIS STRONG PERSONAL DESIRE FOR COOPERATION WITH US. HE EXPRESSED DEEP APPRECIATION FOR PRESIDENT NIXON'S PERSONAL GREETINGS, WHICH I CONVEYED AS INSTRUCTED, AND PRAISED CONTRIBUTIONS OF US CHIEF OF STATE AND SECRETARY KISSINGER IN BRINGING WORLD CLOSER TO SOLUTION OF MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM.

7. ASKED IF HE HAD ANY IMMEDIATE TRAVEL PLANS, PRIMIN SAID HE HOPED TO REMAIN IN DAKAR WHERE HE HAD TO MAKE MANY IMPORTANT DECISIONS. HE THEREFORE HAD DECLINED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S OFFIER TO REPRESENT GOS AT CONFERENCE OF ISLAMIC STATES IN PAKISTAN.

8. COMMENT: MY FIRST OFFICIAL MEETING WITH PRIMIN WAS MARKED BY HIS INFORMALITY AND WARM HOSPITALITY. WHILE IN BRIEF EARLIER SNATCHES OF CONVERSATION DURING RECEPTIONS AT PRESIDENCY, HE HAD SHOWN SOME IMPATIENCE WITH COMPLEXITIES OF US PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR

RELATIONSHIPS, IN THIS MEETING HE SEEMED TO APPRECIATE
NEED TO HELP CREATE CONDITIONS CONDUSIVE TO US PRIVATE
BUSINESS INTEREST. HE INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO RECIEVE
ME WHENEVER I FELT IT IN MUTUAL INTEREST OF SENEGAL AND
US.

AGGREY

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